A MESSAGE FROM ADAM

We recently celebrated the holiday of Simchat Torah, a joyous time during which we conclude reading the final words of the Torah, and we start fresh with the very first words all over again. We have been practicing this for generations upon generations. To many, this might seem boring, unnecessary, and repetitive. However, while there is a certain comfort in the consistency offered by reading the same parshah (portions) year in and year out, there is also endless opportunity to find something special in each chapter every year, to learn a new lesson, to see something in a different way than before.

At this time of the year, we are also beginning our community’s UJA campaign and programming schedule and, like Simchat Torah, while we might be tempted to see the coming year as just another year filled with more of the same, I would like to encourage you to rediscover all that Jewish Calgary has to offer. Yes, there is comfort in, and necessity for, consistency. There are also many “onramps” to Jewish communal participation, including at least one that is right for every member of our community. If you have attended programs in the past, or avoided one altogether, this is the year to find something that is meaningful for you, that connects you to your Judaism and to one another. In a year where our campaign and programming theme is Everyone Counts, it might be easy to think of the saying as a hollow gesture. However, nothing is further from the truth. We are truly a community that cares and, while not perfect, is working to ensure that we live up to the them – that while not perfect, is working to ensure that we live up to the them – that

Everyone Counts. We can only succeed in this venture if all community members contribute – not only to the UJA campaign, but to making certain that there is a place for those seeking to belong. We must include our most vulnerable, those with special needs, seniors, and newcomers. We must also continue to find ways to engage young families and those to whom the Jewish community involvement has not been a priority.

This is not an easy task. It is very simple to fall into old habits, to continue to hold beliefs or grudges that are barriers to participation. Please try to appreciate the amazing opportunities we have in Calgary to live meaningful Jewish lives. There are many other cities in North America – bigger and, seemingly, more established – that do not offer all that we have. It is up to us, individually and collectively, to savour the amazing opportunities we have in Calgary to live meaningful Jewish lives. There are many other cities in North America – bigger and, seemingly, more established – that do not offer all that we have. It is up to us, individually and collectively, to savour

and appreciate our privileged scenario, and to protect it and cultivate it for our children and our children’s children. There are exciting things on our horizon and I am always pleased to discuss the good AND the bad with community members, so please be sure to connect with me if there is something on your mind. After all, building community is a team effort, and we all hold a responsibility to guarantee a Jewish future in Calgary. Only when all we come together and contribute, can we then say that Everyone Counts!

B’Shalom,

Adam Silver
Chief Executive Officer
Calgary Jewish Federation

UNITY NOT UNIFORMITY: WE NEED TO TALK

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21 | 7 pm
BETH TZEDEC CONGREGATION

Join us for a fascinating evening of civil discourse from very diverse sides of the political spectrum. Listen to JJ Goldberg and Jonathan Tobin speak about the battle for Israel’s soul. This event is free of charge – all are welcome.

Facilitated by Maclean’s magazine’s Jason Markusoff.

For information contact Ilana at 403-444-3162 or ilany@rhapsody.ca@jewishcalgary.org

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THE JUDY SHAPIRO FUND

All activities on this page are made possible by your gifts to Federation’s annual UJA campaign.
COUNT YOURSELF “ALL IN!” FOR OUR NEXT FUNDRAISING EVENTS
Your support for our annual campaign is important because EVERYONE COUNTS!

POKER NIGHT
COME OUT FOR A NIGHT OF POKER, FUN, AND FOOD

OCT 10
DEERFOOT INN AND CASINO
TICKETS: $185

NEW DATE AND LOCATION

EVERYONE COUNTS WITH PAMELA SCHULLER

The Calgary Lions of Judah were treated to an evening of learning about inclusion. Guest Speaker Pamela Schuller mingled and spoke briefly, saving the best stories for her main presentation. Calgary’s own Rhona Shore spoke about raising her boys, Ethan and Ryan, in our Jewish community and what inclusion means to them.

At the main event, Pamela Schuller shared her story of growing up with the worst case of Tourette’s syndrome ever diagnosed in the United States. Pamela was unapologetically funny and while the crowd laughed and cheered, there were also a few tears. The students at CJA and Akiva met Pamela earlier in the day, and in their words “it was the best assembly ever!”

Calgary Jewish Federation is committed to encouraging a welcoming, inclusive Jewish community where people of all abilities can contribute and feel valued. If you have any questions or would like to learn more about these programs, please contact Karina Szulc at 403-389-6994 or karinas@jewishcalgary.org.

EVERYONE COUNTS
WITH PAMELA SCHULLER

ONLINE
jewishcalgary.org

IN PERSON
Federation Office at JCC

PHONE
Jessica Miller Switzer
403-444-3157

MAIL
Calgary Jewish Federation / UJA
1607 90 Avenue SW, Calgary, AB T2V 4V7

Ways to Donate
- and -
Buy Tickets

JAC GALA
FESTIVAL HALL

NOV 3
TICKETS: $40 ADVANCE
$50 AT THE DOOR
THIS ISN’T ANY ORDINARY PARTY

Count Yourself "All In!" For Our Next Fundraising Events
Your Support for Our Annual Campaign is Important Because EVERYONE COUNTS!